

OPTIMIZATION OF MULTIVARIATE DISCRIMINATORS IN THE WH \rightarrow LVBB CHANNEL AT DØ

5 August 2013

Stephanie Hamilton
Michigan State University

2

Introduction

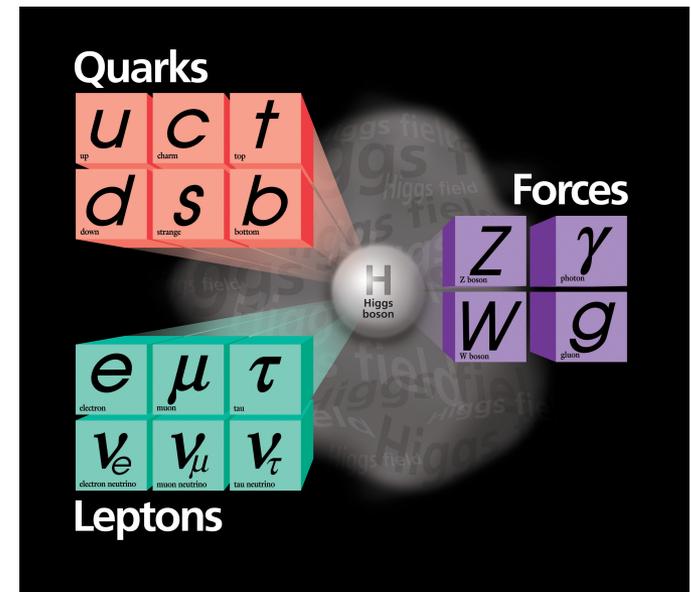
The Standard Model (SM)

The SM Higgs Boson

The Standard Model (SM)

3

- Current theory of known fundamental particles and their interactions via the exchange of gauge bosons
- Extremely successful!
 - Predicted the existence of the top quark, W and Z bosons



Why do we need a Higgs boson?

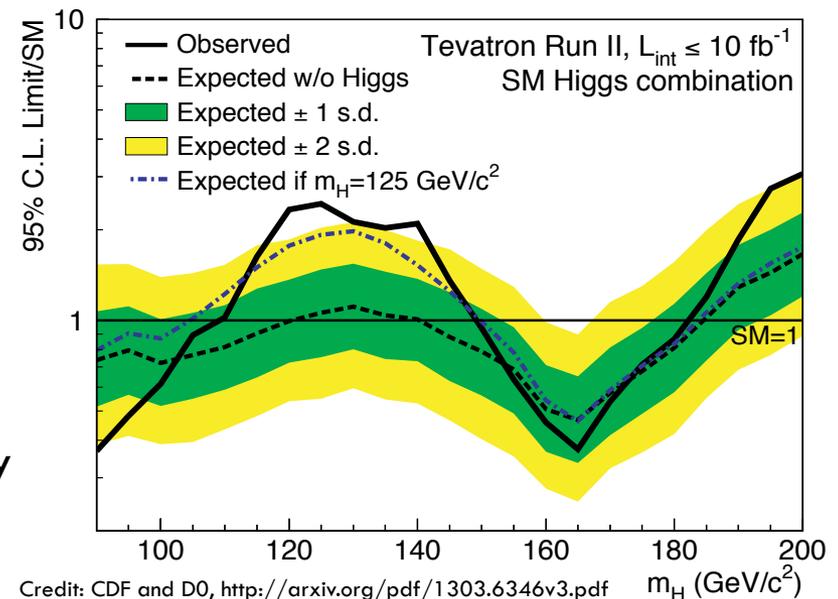
4

- A Higgs mechanism is an essential part of the SM
 - Gives mass to most particles – without it, the SM would not describe life as we know it
 - Provides explanation for electroweak symmetry breaking in the early universe
- A victory for the Standard Model!
 - A Higgs boson was discovered by ATLAS and CMS at CERN in July 2012
 - Simultaneously saw evidence for a new particle in the $WH \rightarrow l \nu bb$ channel at the Tevatron

The 95% Confidence Level Limit

5

- $WH \rightarrow l \nu bb$ is one of six analyses combined for this plot
 - Want to improve sensitivity because the Higgs boson has not been established in this channel yet
- Expected production cross-section over predicted SM cross-section \Rightarrow a measure of how many more events we need to exclude or confirm the particle
 - A measure of our sensitivity
 - Greater than 1 \Rightarrow cannot give a definite answer
 - Less than 1 \Rightarrow can definitively say whether or not the particle is there



6

How do we search for a Higgs?

The SM Higgs Boson at the Tevatron

The $D\bar{0}$ Detector

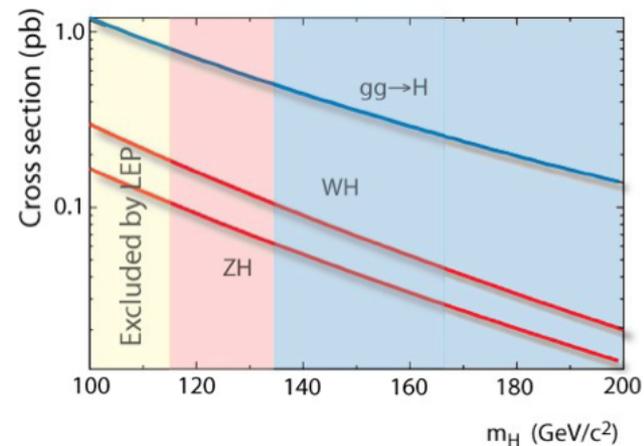
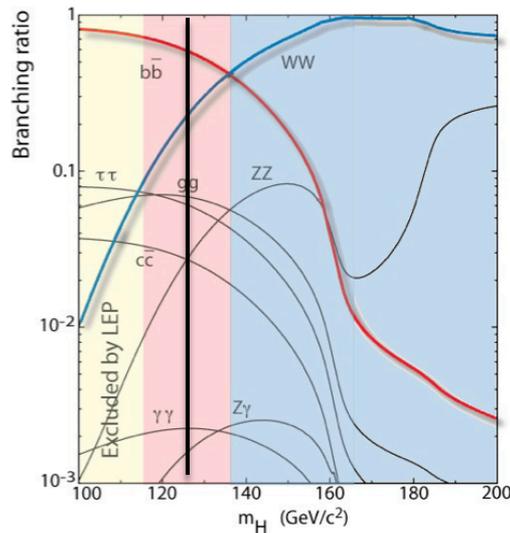
The $WH \rightarrow l \nu bb$ Channel

TMVA and Multivariate Analysis

The SM Higgs Boson at the Tevatron

7

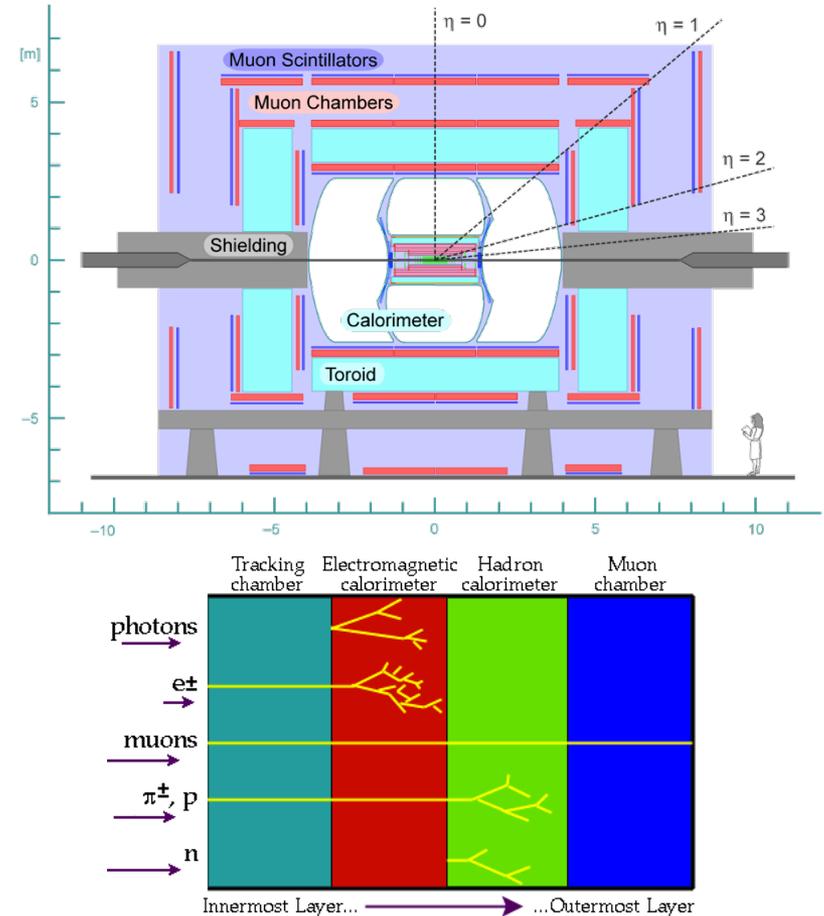
- Direct search at $\sqrt{s} = 1.96$ TeV
- Two primary means of production
 - Gluon fusion
 - Associated production
- Decay branching ratios depend on the mass



The DØ Detector

8

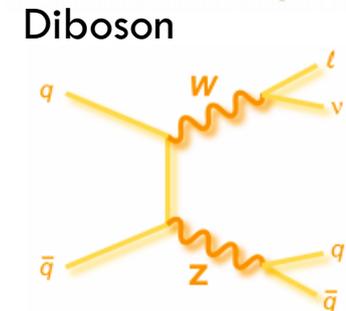
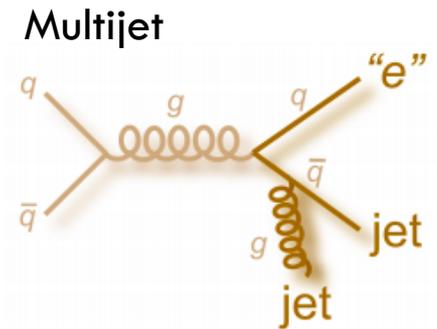
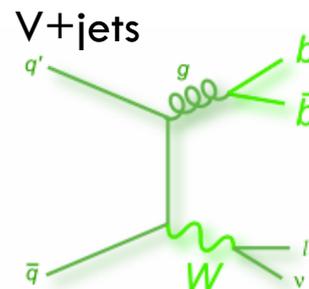
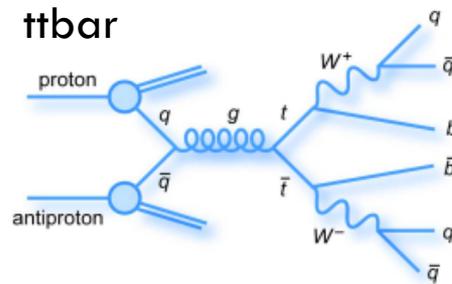
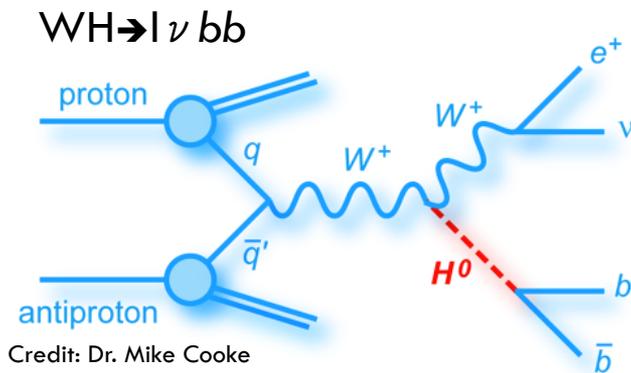
- Multiple subdetectors
 - Tracking system
 - Silicon Microstrip Tracker
 - Central Fiber Tracker
 - Calorimeter
 - Muon system
- Neutrinos identified as missing transverse energy



The $WH \rightarrow l \nu bb$ Channel

9

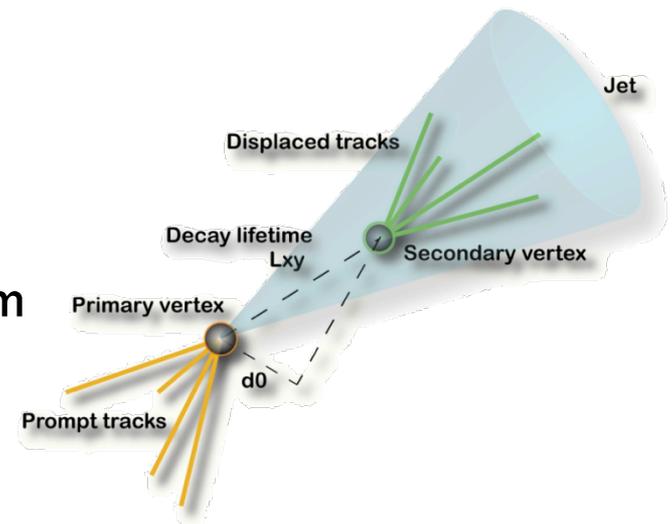
- Tiny Higgs signal against huge backgrounds
- Reducing the huge background
 - b-tagging, Multivariate techniques



What is b-tagging?

10

- First, what is a jet?
 - Attempting to separate a pair of quarks - takes less energy to create a spray of new particles
 - Charged particles leave tracks in the tracker and the spray leaves a wide deposit of energy in the calorimeter
- Identifying bottom quark jets
 - Look for:
 - A secondary vertex displaced from the primary vertex
 - Displaced impact parameter



Multivariate Techniques

TMVA and Multivariate Analysis

TMVA Method Options

TMVA Output

TMVA and Multivariate Analysis

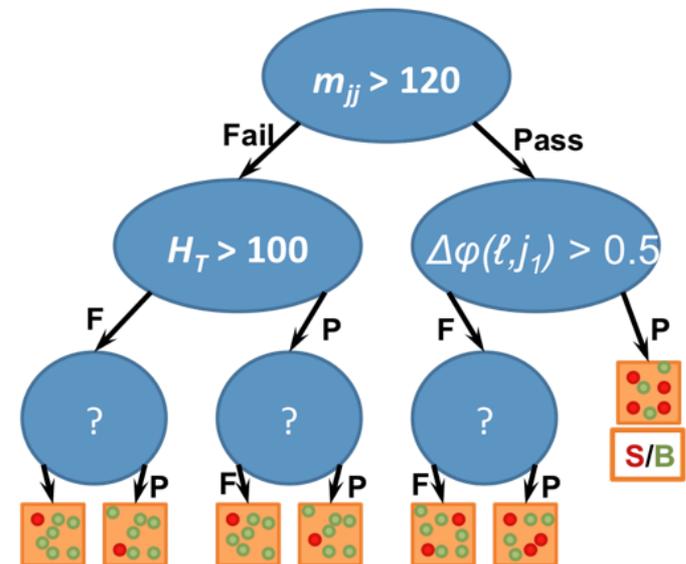
12

- Toolkit for Multivariate Analysis (TMVA)
 - A library of ROOT, the statistical analysis framework used by most of the high energy physics community to analyze data
- Multivariate Analysis (MVA)
 - Combining several moderately discriminating variables into one strongly discriminating variable
 - Discriminating \Rightarrow background distribution of the variable tends toward left of histogram, while signal tends toward right
 - Secondary MVAs
 - Higgs vs. specific background ($t\bar{t}$, V +jets, diboson, multijet)
 - Final MVA
 - Higgs vs. all background

Multivariate Techniques

13

- Decision Trees (DT)
 - Subsequent cuts are made on different input variables until a stop criterion is reached
 - Each leaf has a specific signal-to-background ratio
- Boosted Decision Trees (BDT)
 - A “forest” of many DTs
 - The signal-to-background ratios are used as weights for misclassified events to train the next trees



TMVA Method Options

14

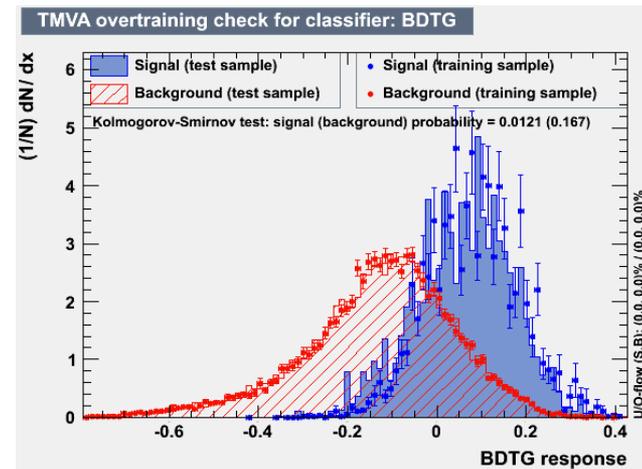
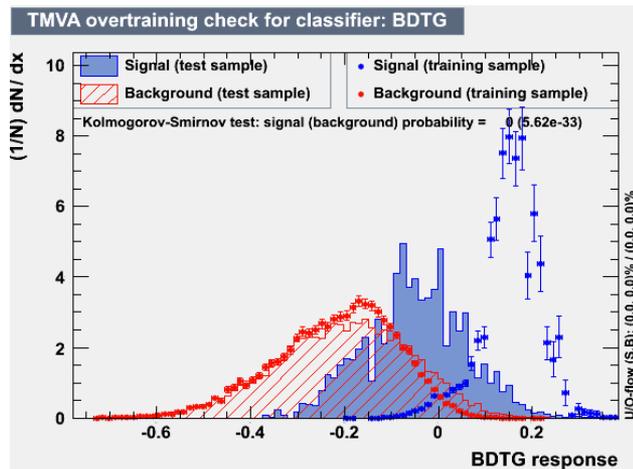
- Possible to vary
 - `BoostType` – defines how TMVA uses the signal-to-background ratios as weights for the next trees
 - `NTrees` – number of trees in the random forest
 - `Shrinkage` – defines the learning rate of the boosting algorithm
 - `NNodesMax` – maximum number of nodes any tree is allowed to have
 - `MaxDepth` – how many “levels” a tree is allowed to have
 - `GradBaggingFraction` – defines the fraction of events that will be used in each iteration of growing a tree, when one is using random subsamples of all events.
 - And many more...

TMVA Output

15

□ Overtraining

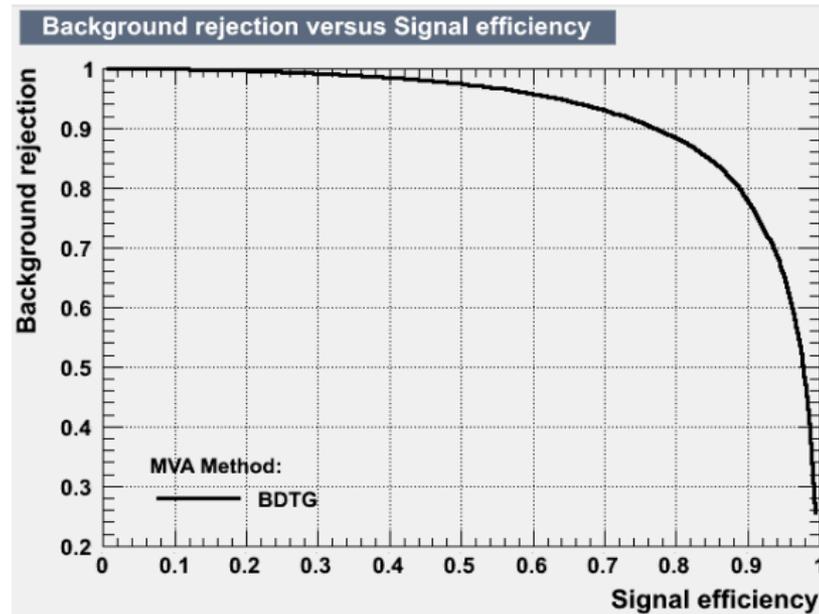
- TMVA begins to cut on statistical fluctuations rather than on the physics properties of the data
- Compare “train” and “test” subsamples to determine the probability that they originated from same sample
 - KS test – considered passed if both background and signal results were above 1%



TMVA Output (cont'd)

16

- Background Rejection vs. Signal Acceptance Curve
 - How much signal is being kept after a certain amount of background is rejected?



17

Summer Work

Optimization of Multivariate Discriminators
Results

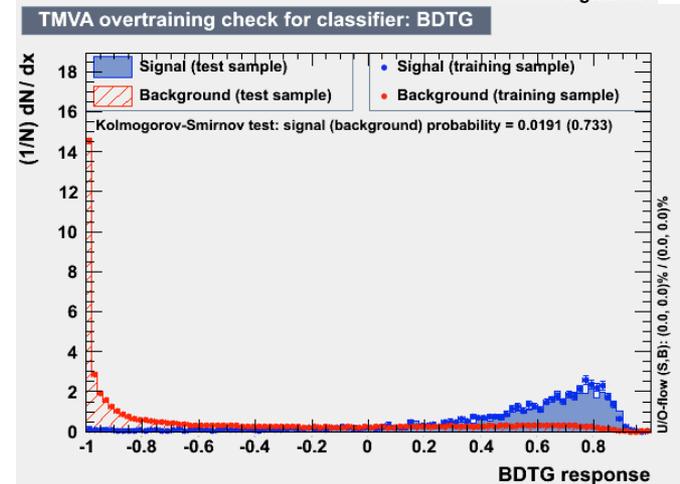
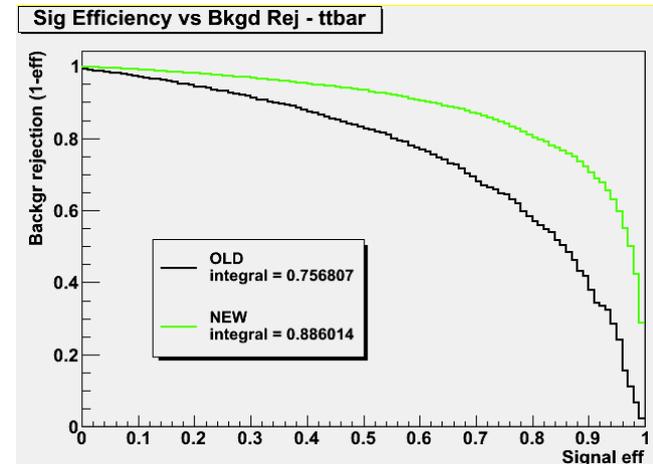
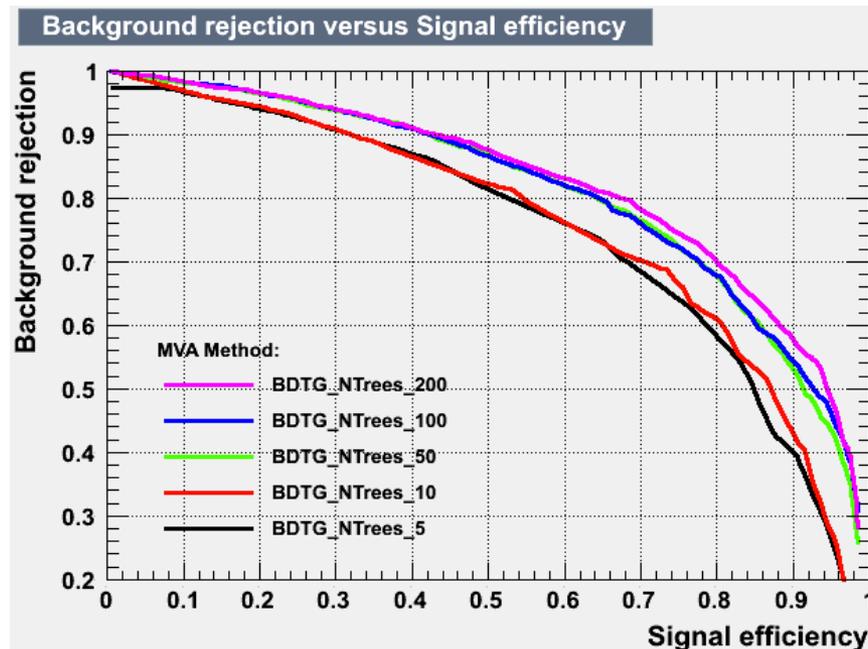
Optimization of Multivariate Discriminators

18

- When run, the optimization process would vary
 - NTrees
 - Shrinkage
 - NNodesMax
 - GradBaggingFraction
- Signal Acceptance vs. Background Rejection curve integral and overtraining plots used to determine which combination was the best

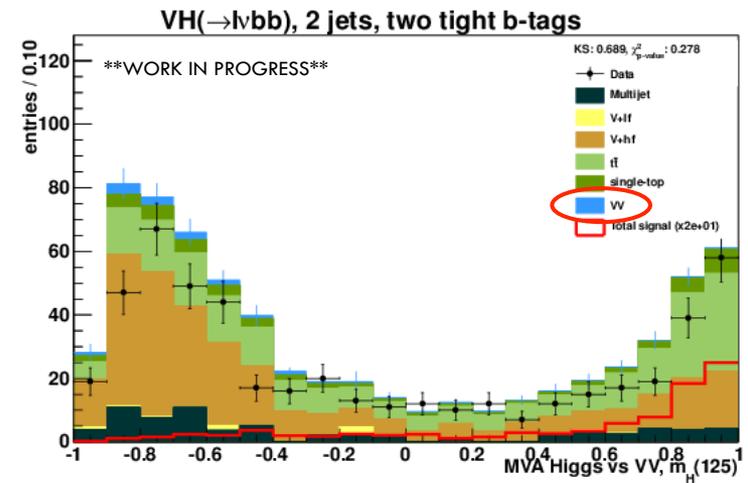
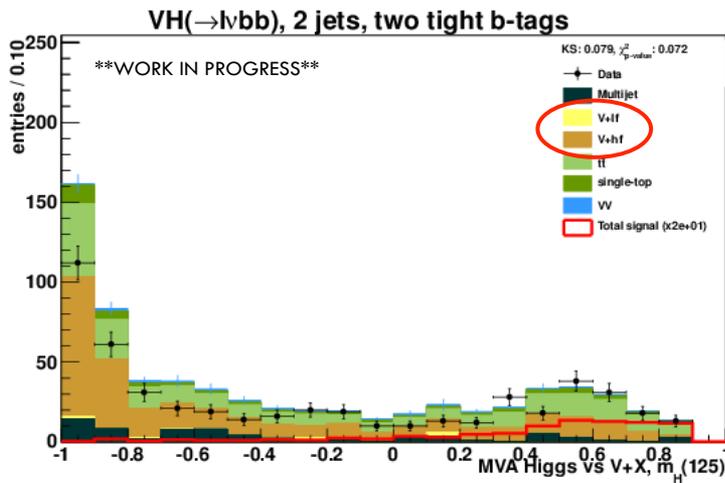
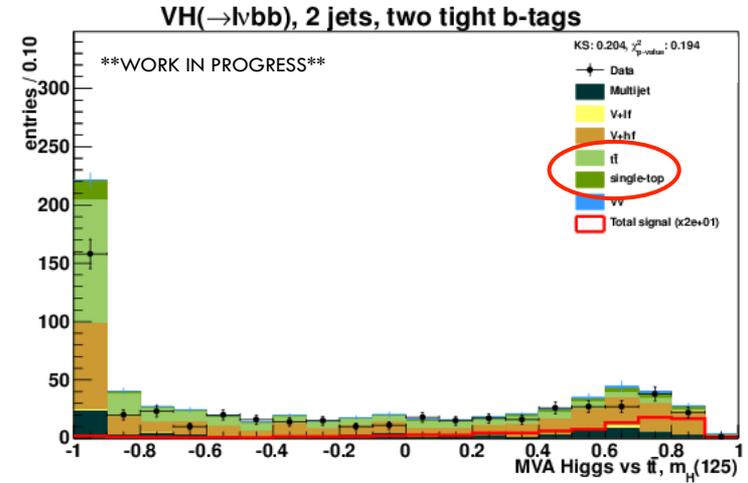
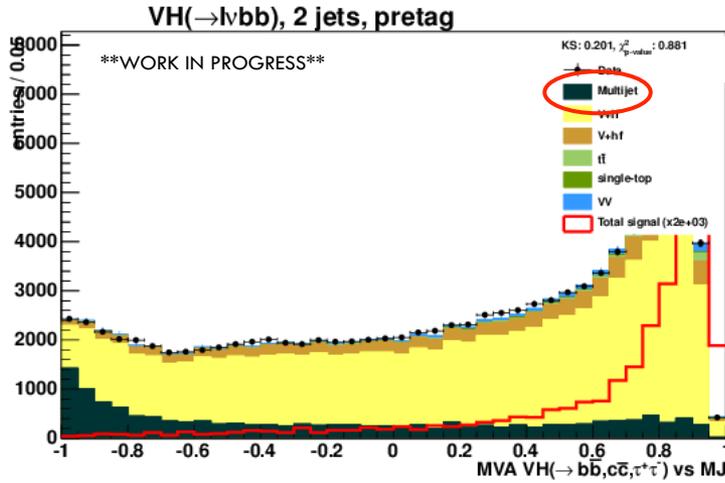
Improvements in MVAs

19



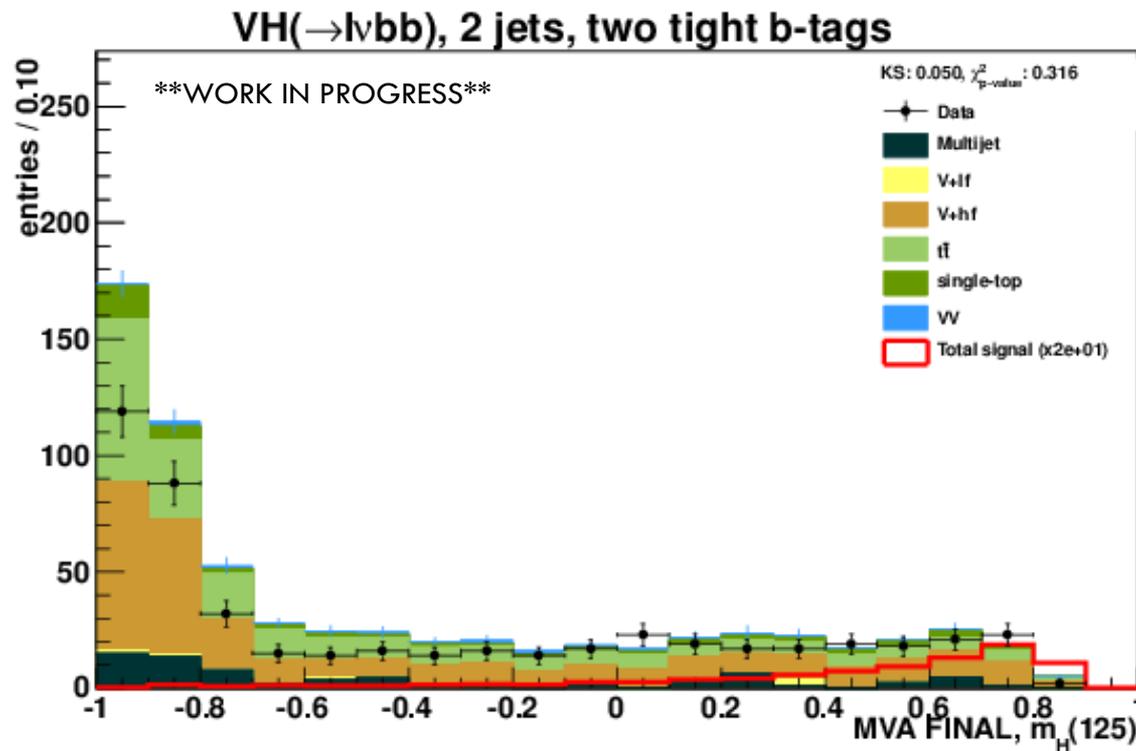
Results

20



Results (cont'd)

21



Results (cont'd)

22

- Significant improvements in our expected sensitivity to the SM Higgs boson cross-section

95% C.L. Limits on the Higgs Boson Production Cross-Section

	Before Summer 2013	After Summer 2013	Percent Increase
MVA el	6.28	5.70	9.24%
MVA mu	6.52	5.88	9.51%
MVA el+mu	4.42	4.02	9.05%

Summary

23

- New optimization tools for Multivariate Analysis were developed
 - Varies the values of different options used for training BDTs
- These tools played an important part in the over-9% increases from the pre-Summer 2013 starting point

Thanks

24

- Dr. Michael Cooke
- Dr. Ryuji Yamada
- My fellow summer students and the rest of the *WH* group
- The SIST Committee
 - Linda Diepholz
 - Dianne Engram
 - Dr. Davenport
- The DØ Collaboration
- Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory